GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3051
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2016
Encroachment along Coastlines and Land Management at Ports
Mishra Shri Anoop;Tharoor Dr. Shashi

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of any encroachment along the coastline of various ports in the country and if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto;
(b) whether such encroachment is proving to be a hindrance to smooth movement of ships/vessels and if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
(c) whether the Government is aware of the findings of an Audit report in 2015 that discrepancy in proper maintenance of records by the port departments is a major reason for non-identification of illegal encroachments and if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
(d) whether the Government proposes to computerize land records and implement the Geographical Information System (GIS) to upgrade the land management system of ports as being done in the State of Kerala and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
(e) whether the Government proposes to review the existing guidelines and issue a revised and uniform guidelines on land management at all the major ports in the country; and
(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING
(SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN)

(a)&(b): Cases of encroachment along the coastline of some of the Major Ports have come to the notice of the Government. These encroachments are, however, not affecting smooth movement of ships/vessels. The Ports are taking steps & measures including seeking help from the local administration, District authorities for removal of the encroachments.

(c)&(d):Findings in the C&AG Audit Report 2015 have brought out discrepancies in proper maintenance of records by certain Major Ports. The main discrepancies relate to inconsistency in title and land holdings, non-identification of land for future activity, deviation from land policy guideline etc. Taking note of discrepancies pointed out by the audit, the Government has advised the Major Ports to focus on digitalization of their Land Records and implementation of GIS and also acquiring all the title deeds of lands so that, the ports are able to identify every inch of land pertaining to them. Most of the Ports have already made considerable progress with regard to computerization and digitalization of their land records. The ports have also prepared their land use plans which would guide them in gainfully utilizing their unused and vacant lands.

(e)&(f): Yes, Madam. The revision will be with a view to remove ambiguities and bring clarity on some of the aspects of land management in the ports.

*****